

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the latest communications from the US Patent Office, including the cited prior art. In response to the outstanding office action, Applicant has amended claims 1, 8 and 9 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of Applicant's invention. Further, Applicant has rewritten objected to claims 3 and 6 in independent form. In view of the amendments made and the remarks which follow, Applicant believes this application to be allowable. Accordingly, applicant requests issuance of a timely notice of allowance.

Claims 1, 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Griesemer (US Pub. 2003/0146725) in view of Davis (United States Pat. No. 4, 806,855). Griesemer discloses a motor overload coil control for use in a motor starter / relay contactor. The disclosed motor overload coil monitors and displays the motor temperature based on thermal pile calculation using a number of inputs. Griesemer also discloses a user alterable full load amperage (FLA) setting. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Griesemer discloses no user alterable temperature settings, such as those enumerated in for example, page 8, lines 21-26 of the application under examination.

Davis discloses a system for determining the current carrying capability of one or more overhead power transmission lines. The system monitors the thermal state of each monitored line span by measuring the conductor temperature, line current, solar radiation, ambient temperature, and possibly other settings. However, Davis discloses no user alterable settings (and therefore does not disclose any user alterable temperature settings). Applicant respectfully submits that as neither Griesemer nor Davis disclose at least one user alterable temperature setting, claims 1, 8, 9 of the application under examination is not obvious in view of these two

references. The disclosure of a user alterable full load amperage setting only allows for a minimal level of user configurability, as opposed to the complete control over the utilized thermal model allowed by Applicant's invention. As explained in the application under examination, such a high level of user configurability will afford numerous advantages over a minimally configurable system, including allowing the user to fully account for the particular use their power system is put to, or the location of their power system. No such advantage is occurred by allowing a user to input just full load amperage. Further, nothing in Davis or Griesemer suggests such an understanding of the advantages of a fully user configurable thermal model. Therefore, the user configurability of at least one temperature setting is not obvious in view of the cited art.

If Examiner should find claim 1 allowable, claims 2-7 should be allowed as well as they depend on claim 1 and therefore incorporate all limitations of claim 1.

Further, Applicant has provided new formal drawings for Figures 1 and 2 in accordance with Examiner's objection.

Applicant has also amended the specification such that the first author of the paper is now correctly identified as "S.E. Zocholl" instead of "S.A. Zocholl" per Examiner's objection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments to the claims and the argument submitted, this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore requests issuance of a timely notice of allowance. However, should Examiner be of the opinion that further amendment or response is required, Applicant encourages Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below. Further, although no additional fees are believed to be due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd., Deposit Account No. 50-1039 with reference to attorney docket number (1444-0003).

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. This sheet includes non-handwritten numbers 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 29, as well as non-handwritten titles FIG. 1 and FIG. 2, per Examiner's objection.